

missed. What brought together such a multitude was, clearly, a combination of two factors — residual moisture and shelter.

The following were found to have been taken. CARABIDAE: *Bembidion genei* Küst., 2; *B. femoratum* Stm., several. STAPHYLINIDAE: *Carpelimus bilineatus* Steph., 1; *C. gracilis* Mann., 10; *C. pusillus* (Grav.), 1; *Platystethus nitens* (Sahlb.), 3; *Hypomedon obscurellus* (Er.), 8; *Leptacinus batychrus* (Gyll.), 9; *Neobisnius lathrobioides* (Baudi), 5; *Philonthus quisquiliarius* (Gyll.), 1; *Gabrius nigrutilus* (Grav.), 1 male; *Thecturota* (= *Pragensiella*) *marchii* (Dod.), 2; *Falagria caesa* Er. (= *sulcata* auct.), many; *Amischa decipiens* (Sharp), 1; *Atheta* (*Philhygra*) *luridipennis* (Mann.), 1; *A. (P.) palustris* (Kies.), 1.

The heavy preponderance of Staphylinidae will be noted, as also the absence among these of any species over about 4mm in length other than the *Philonthus*. Of those present, several are uncommon in this district or indeed not otherwise found there, notably (in the latter category) *T. marchii*, *H. obscurella* and *A. palustris*. *C. gracilis* though general is quite scarce whilst *F. caesa* (present in numbers) has otherwise occurred to me only singly, even though on numerous occasions. *N. lathrobioides*, like all its genus, is far from common.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

#### **A further record of *Pelosia muscerda* Hufn., the Dotted Footman (Lep.: Arctiidae) in Kent.**

A single male of *P. muscerda* was caught in the Rothamsted Insect Survey light trap at Hamstreet, Kent (Site No. 472, OS grid ref. TR 004 334) on 27.vii.1990. No known migrant species were caught on this night. J. Clarke (*Ent. Rec.* 102: 302) records two specimens at Folkestone Warren on 1/2.viii.1990 and reviews the history of this species in Kent.

Although this species was once at Ham Fen, some 75km away from the R.I.S. trap at Hamstreet, it is no longer believed to occur there. It seems likely that the present record, and those of Dr Clarke, represent a migration of *P. muscerda* from a more distant source.

Thanks are extended to Mr M. Tickner for operating the trap at Hamstreet.—ADRIAN M. RILEY, AFRC-Farmland Ecology Group, Dept. Entomology & Nematology, Rothamsted Exp. Stn., Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ.

#### **A melanic form of *Carabus arvensis* Herbst. (Col.: Carabidae)**

Following the account by Mr A.A. Allen (*Ent. Rec.* 102: 214) on melanism in *Carabus clatratus* L., I can report a few melanic specimens of *Carabus arvensis* by acid flushes on Cadair Idris, Merionethshire (SH71), 27.v.1990.— P.F. WHITEHEAD, Moor Leys, Little Comberton, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3EP.